

February 7, 1975

PRESIDENT: Senator Carsten.

SENATOR CARSTEN: Mr. President, members of the Legislature, I have a couple of questions of Senator Mahoney, if I may ask them. Senator Mahoney, I'm not sure we touched on it at the hearing but, is there any conflict here with our legislative council we usually hold at the end of the year of our short session for reports to the Legislature, and will this have any conflict? How will we coordinate this with the new Legislature then that will go in to session in December?

SENATOR MAHONEY: Senator Carsten, we have been able to set that pretty much by the decision of the Executive Board itself and the director. If, after the November election which would be say November 6th or 8th, the regular constituted legislative council meetint, which last year we had for one day, could be held the latter part of November. It could be the last week in November, or the third week in November. I don't see any problem that it is set on a particular date. It presently is not glued down to the first week in December. We can have it at any time we so desire.

PRESIDENT: Senator Chambers.

SENATOR CHAMBERS: Senator Mahoney, may I ask you a question too?

SENATOR MAHONEY: Certainly.

SENATOR CHAMBERS: I presume that since this would be the new starting, the new official starting date of the Legislature, the swearing in of new members would occur on this day.

SENATOR MAHONEY: That would be correct. That business that we always do on the first day, and the very first things come first. It would be the swearing in of the new senators.

SENATOR CHAMBERS: Senator Mahoney, in the interest of efficiency of operation and saving of money wherever possible, why couldn't everything be accomplished that is being sought under this amendment under the current system by meeting on the day set out in the Constitution now and taking care of everything that first day that we would do under your bill, and then allowing the number of days to pass that would allow us to do what you would want?

SENATOR MAHONEY: You're saying then in other words, Senator Chambers, meet the regular day in January and then go home for ten days, or twelve days, or two weeks.

SENATOR CHAMBERS: Right. Then no constitutional amendment is needed.

SENATOR MAHONEY: The only problem on that, Senator Chambers, that we felt that the later you get into the year, by pushing this thing back that you would have a possibility of going late into June and almost the first of July if you took two weeks. There are some people that . . . the very background of Nebraska's economy, people who serve in this body . . . it's important that they get back to their business' which are farms and so forth, this would delay the session quite a bit. It would almost go into July. Another thing, Senator Chambers, is the states that do this, do have it in December.